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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 25X1 REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 18 December 1950

SUBJECT Reconstruction of the Guben-
Forst Railroad Line 25X1

NO. OF PAGES 7

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1. work on the reconstruction of the Guben-Forst railroad line was started on 24 October 1950. The line was in operation as far as Taubendorf, while the section from there to Forst had been completely dismantled.

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2. On 18 October [redacted] work on the reconstruction of the Forst-Taubendorf railroad line is scheduled to start on 15 February 1951. The line runs parallel to the boundary of the Polish occupied zone. The rails required are obtained by the dismantling of an unknown line in the Magdeburg railroad district.*

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Comment. The Laubendorf-Forst section of the single-track Guben-Forst railroad line was completely dismantled. It is believed that it will be reconstructed single-track. It is of importance inasmuch as it establishes a cross connection between the Guben and Forst border crossing points which are used a great deal by Soviet transit shipping. Moreover, this section would close the gap of an important North-South connection linking all the border crossing points from Kuestrin to Zittau. Of this North-South line, the Kuestrin-Frankfurt/Oder section is completed, according to a press report of 14 October 1950. [] The Frankfurt/Oder-Guben section is being reconstructed. [] The Forst-Weisswasser-Horka/Wehrkirch section, which is in operation, is being provided with passing sidings. [] The Horka/Wehrkirch-Goerlitz section has never been closed, and the Goerlitz-Zittau section was reopened in the summer of 1950. [] The line, when completed, will offer the Soviets valuable opportunities for shifting military forces in a North-South direction.

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 Class. Changed To: TS S C 25X1
 Auth.: HR 70-2
 Date: 7 JUL 1978 By:

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